## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internal Application No
PCT/IB2004/003365

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01M8/02 H01M H01M8/04 H01M8/06 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 HO1M Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, COMPENDEX C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° 1,2,6-9, US 2003/077487 A1 (ROBERTS JOY A ET AL) Υ 11,13 24 April 2003 (2003-04-24) page 5, paragraph 60 - paragraph 63; figure 3 1,2,9,13 US 5 441 821 A (MERRITT ET AL) Υ 15 August 1995 (1995-08-15) column 7, line 12 - column 8, line 54; figure 1 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN 1,6,9,13 Υ vol. 1997, no. 12, 25 December 1997 (1997-12-25) & JP 09 209810 A (FUJI HEAVY IND LTD), 12 August 1997 (1997-08-12) abstract Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. X ° Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the set. "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of malling of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 07/03/2005 21 February 2005 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Wiedemann, E Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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